

TOPIC: COF ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTENDED STUDIES PROGRAMS FOR FY2015

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I. SUMMARY

This item recommends approval of College Opportunity Fund (COF) eligibility for the Extended Studies degree programs listed below for Fiscal Year 2015. Most of these are the same programs that were approved last year and in previous years.

II. BACKGROUND

College Opportunity Fund (COF) eligibility for off-campus (Extended Studies) undergraduate programs may be approved by the Commission per C.R.S. §23-1-109(5) and §23-18-202(5)(d)(I)(f). CCHE Policy Section IV: Statewide Extended Studies, subsection 5.02, states that, “Up to one-half of one percent of the total estimated state eligible [COF] credit hours will be allocated to off-campus programs.” Following this policy, Department staff collect proposals from Extended Studies units to recommend to the Commission for approval, in consultation with the Statewide Extended Studies designated officers. The Department recommends Commission approval only for programs that result in the completion of a degree or other credential. Other considerations include how the program will help meet the State of Colorado’s workforce development needs; the extent to which the program is directed at underserved populations; and justification of any duplication of a similar program offered by another institution in the same geographic area.

III. DEGREE PROGRAMS FOR PROPOSED FY2015 COF ELIGIBILITY

Staff recommends the following institutions’ off-campus programs and requested FTE for COF eligibility be approved for:

Adams State University (30 COF FTE)

Offered at Pueblo Community College

- B.S. in Business Administration with Health Care Administration Emphasis

Colorado State University – Pueblo (167 COF FTE)

Offered at Colorado Springs Tower, Ft. Carson, Pikes Peak Community College & Denver South locations

- B.S. in Liberal Studies/Elementary Education (20 COF FTE)
- B.S. in Business Administration (25 COF FTE)

- B.S. in Social Work (30 COF FTE)
- B.S. in Sociology (25 COF FTE)
- B.S. in Sociology with an Emphasis in Criminology (50 COF FTE)
- B.S. in Nursing (17 COF FTE)

Metropolitan State University of Denver (170 COF FTE)

South Campus

- B.S. in Accounting (25 COF FTE)
- B.S. in Psychology (25 COF FTE)
- B.A. in Hospitality, Meeting, and Travel Administration (25 COF FTE)
- B.S. in Management (25 COF FTE)
- B.S. in Computer Information Systems (10 COF FTE)

North Campus

- Upper Division Professional Elementary Education Licensure Sequence taken in conjunction with an approved major course of study (10 COF FTE)
- B.A. in Psychology (20 COF FTE)

Offered at Front Range Community College

- B.S. in Nursing (15 COF FTE)

Offered at Arapahoe Community College

- B.S. in Nursing (15 COF FTE)

University of Northern Colorado (205 COF FTE)

Offered at Lowry Campus

- B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies: Elementary Teacher Licensure or Early Childhood option “Urban Education Program”
- B.A. in Special Education
- B.A. Early Childhood (190 COF FTE for the 3 educator preparation programs)
- B.A. American Sign Language: English Interpretation (15 COF FTE)

Amounts of requested FTE for COF eligibility are summarized below in Table 1.

Table 1: Requested COF FTE

Institution	Requested COF FTE
Adams State University	30
CSU-Pueblo	167
MSU Denver	170
UNC	205
TOTAL	572

IV. STAFF ANALYSIS

Per CCHE Policy Section IV: Statewide Extended Studies, “Up to one-half of one percent of the total estimated state eligible [COF] credit hours will be allocated to off-campus programs.” The Department’s Division of Budget and Finance reports that COF has been appropriated at 132,246 FTE. The amount allocated to off-campus programs is 661 FTE. The institutions’ off-campus requested 572 FTE for COF eligibility for FY2015 listed above does not exceed the allowable amount. Moreover, Department staff and Statewide Extended Studies designated officers verify that these programs are designed to help meet the State of Colorado’s workforce development needs; extend opportunities to underserved populations; and are justifiable in light of any duplication of similar programs offered by another institution in the same geographic area.

V. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Commission approve the off-campus programs and requested FTE for COF eligibility for FY2015 listed above.

VI. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

C.R.S. §23-1-109(5) establishes the Commission’s role in overseeing of state funding for off-campus instruction: *The Commission shall set policies, after consultation with the governing boards of institutions, which define which courses and programs taught outside the geographic boundaries of the campus may be eligible for general fund support. The commission may include funding for those courses and programs in its system wide funding recommendations to the general assembly.*